

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 249111

17

ORIGIN PM-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-01 EA-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66617

DRAFTED BY: PM/ISO:MRDWORKEN

APPROVED BY: PM/ISO:JDSTODDART

----- 081661

R 121925Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 249111

FOLLOWING REPEAT PORT LOUIS 940 SENT SECSTATE INFO COLOMBO
DACCA ISLAMABAD LONDON MOSCOW NEW DELHI PARIS TANANARIVE
CINCPAC CINCUSNAVEUR DATED NOV 7.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0940

CINCPAC AND CINCUSNAVEUR ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XO IN MARR MP

SUBJECT: LEFTIST CONFERENCE ON INDIAN OCEAN

REF: (A) NEW DELHI 14976; (B) PORT LOUIS 903

1. PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM HAS INFORMED ME THAT MAURITIAN
DELEGATION TO THIS CONFERENCE WILL BE HEADED BY MINISTER OF
ECONOMIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT KHER JAGATSINGH WHO IS
ALSO PRESIDENT OF MAURITIAN PEACE COMMITTEE. RAMGOOLAM WILL
ALSO SEND HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, MRS. RANI HEERAMUN, IN HER
CAPACITY AS MEMBER MAURITIUS PEACE COUNCIL AND PROBABLY
L. SEETOHUL, A LAWYER TRAINED IN USSR AND PROMINENT IN LOCAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 249111

MAURITIUS-USSR FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY. RAMGOOLAM SAID HE HAD

BEEN VERY ANNOYED THAT SPONSORS OF TANANARIVE MEETING (REF B) HAD INVITED REPRESENTATIVES OF LEFT WING OPPOSITION PARTY HERE AND SPONSORS OF NEW DELHI MEETING MAY DO SAME. THEREFORE HE HAD SENT JAGATSINGH TO MOSCOW TO TRY TO PERSUADE SOVIET WPC OFFICIALS TO LAY OFF INVITATIONS TO MAURITIAN OPPOSITION LEADERS AND ALLOW GOM TO CHOOSE ITS OWN REPRESENTATIVES TO DELHI CONFERENCE. (IT IS STILL NOT CLEAR WHETHER MARXIST MMM LEADER BERENGER OR ONE OF HIS LIEUTENANTS WILL ATTEND, BUT I DOUBT THAT GOM WILL IN END REFUSE PASSPORT TO BERENGER IF HE INSISTS GOING TO DELHI.)

2. TODAY I HAD BRIEF DISCUSSION WITH JAGATSINGH WITH FOLLOWING RESULTS: HE IDENTIFIED MAIN CONCERNS RE OUR DIEGO EXPANSION AS RELATED TO (A) WHETHER IT WOULD BECOME NUCLEAR BASE, (B) WHETHER IT WOULD SUPPORT NUCLEAR BOMBERS SUCH AS B-52S, (C) WHETHER IT WOULD PROVIDE BASE FOR POLARIS SUBMARINES, AND (D) WHETHER IT WOULD BE USED FOR SUPPORT OF SOUTH AFRICA IN STRATEGIC SENSE. I REPLIED THAT BY NO STRETCH OF THE IMAGINATION COULD OUR MODEST PROPOSED DIEGO EXPANSION BE CONSTRUED AS CONVERSION INTO A "NUCLEAR BASE", THAT LONG RANGE POLARIS SUBMARINES WERE NOT DEPENDENT UPON DISTANT BASES, THAT WE OBVIOUSLY CANNOT PUBLICIZE OUR NUCLEAR DEPLOYMENTS ANY MORE THAN SOVIETS OR ANYONE ELSE, AND THAT OUR USE OF DIEGO CERTAINLY HAS NO DIRECT CONNECTION WITH SOUTH AFRICA. I STRESSED THAT FOR US DIEGO REPRESENTS AN ECONOMICAL SUPPORT FACILITY FOR OUR MODERATE NAVAL PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN WHICH IN RECENT TIMES HAS BEEN GENERALLY LESS THAN THAT OF SOVIETS, AND POINTED OUT THAT COMBINATION OF SEVERAL SOVIET NAVAL FACILITIES IN AND AROUND WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN ALREADY OUTWEIGH LIMITED DIEGO FACILITIES. I REMINDED HIM THAT WE SEEK NEITHER ESCALATION NOR CONFRONTATION BUT ARE OBLIGED TO BE REALISTIC ABOUT STRATEGIC FACTS OF LIFE IN THIS AREA.

3. JAGATSINGH SAID HE HAD BEEN MAKING CAREFUL STUDY OF WHOLE PROBLEM INCLUDING SUCH SOURCES AS 1972 PUBLICATION BY GEORGETOWN CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ON INDIAN OCEAN, AUSTRALIAN PROPOSAL ON INDIAN OCEAN EARLIER THIS YEAR AND RECENTLY EXPRESSED VIEWS OF SHAH OF IRAN. AT JAGATSINGH'S REQUEST, I WILL PROVIDE HIM WITH SUMMARY OF OUR POLICY VIEWS (FROM PREVIOUS GUIDANCES) BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 249111

4. JAGATSINGH EXPECTS TO GET HIS MARCHING ORDERS FROM RAMGOOLAM TOMORROW AND WILL ARRIVE NEW DELHI PROBABLY NOVEMBER 12. I INFORMED HIM EMBASSY NEW DELHI OFFICERS HAD BEEN INVITED TO OPENING CEREMONY AND WOULD ATTEND. HE SAID HE WOULD BE GLAD TO MEET WITH EMBASSY NEW DELHI REPRESENTATIVE BEFORE OR DURING CONFERENCE. I THINK IT WOULD BE WORTH THE EFFORT FOR AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN OR AT LEAST SENIOR EMBASSY OFFICER TO

DO SO. JAGATSINGH IS SOPHISTICATED, SMOOTH OPERATOR NOT
BASICALLY ANTAGONISTIC TO WEST OR US. HE RECENTLY RETURNED
FROM IMF/IBRD MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON AND IS CURRENTLY TRYING
TO PERSUADE GALBRAITH TO VISIT MAURITIUS. JAGATSINGH IS
NOW RUNNING SECOND IN RACE TO SUCCEED RAMGOOLAM WHENEVER
HE STEPS DOWN.
MANHARD UNQUOTE KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: powellba2
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE249111
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PM/ISO:MRDWORKEN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740326-0889
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741150/aaaabpzzr.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) NEW DELHI 14976; (B) PORT LOUIS, 903
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: powellba2
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUN 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>; WITHDRAWN <13 Jun 2005 by BoyleJA, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <22 JUN 2005 by papenddr>; APPROVED <22 JUN 2005 by blochd0>; APPROVED <22 JUN 2005 by powellba2>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEFTIST CONFERENCE ON INDIAN OCEAN
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, XO, IN, MP, WORLD PEACE COUNCIL
To: BANGKOK MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005